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Clark and BPA announce settlement

Joint news release: Clark Public Utilities Bonneville Power Administration

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PR 46-96

PORTLAND, Ore. - Clark Public Utilities and the Bonneville Power Administration have announced an agreement on how much power Clark will buy from BPA for the next five years which includes settlement of a lawsuit filed by Clark.

The agreement will allow Clark to increase its power purchases from PacifiCorp and Washington Water Power, according to Commissioner Jane Van Dyke.

"I'm pleased we were able to work with BPA and our other suppliers to reduce our power supply costs," said Van Dyke. "This is the culmination of a nine-year effort to diversify our power supply. We will now have more flexibility and control over our power resources."

Steve Hickok, group vice president for sales and customer service at BPA, said, "This agreement settles most power supply issues between BPA and Clark through 2001. I am pleased that we were able to work with Clark so it can achieve the power diversity it wants without shifting cost burdens to other BPA customers."

BPA has been pursuing a policy with all of its customers to allow them greater diversification of their power resources through access to new markets.

Under the settlement, Clark will reduce its BPA purchases from 200 to 100 average megawatts on Oct. 1, 1996, and to 10 average megawatts on Aug. 1, 1997.

The lawsuit, filed in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, will be dismissed once various contracts are in place to implement terms of the settlement. The 9th Circuit Court hears legal actions regarding BPA rate decisions.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: Mick Shutt, Clark Public Utilities (360) 992-3238

Lynn Baker, Bonneville Power Administration (503) 230-5901

For more information, contact Mick Shutt, Clark Public Utilities 360-992-3238, or Lynn Baker,

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Bonneville Power Administration, 503-230-5901, lwbaker@bpa.gov.